



Community Update

June 11, 2020

Dear Prep Families,

Now several weeks into summer, we wanted to provide you with an update on the status of our planning for the 2020-21 academic year. As we indicated in our May 14 update, **we are fully engaged in preparing to open for regular instruction on August 26, welcoming our students back to campus and to Saint Michael Hall.** We are committed to returning to campus in a safe and appropriate manner. As has been the case all spring, we will continue to use guidance from public health professionals and organizations to ensure the safety and security of our entire school community.

In late May, we created a series of planning teams comprised of administrative leaders, staff, faculty and medical professionals to develop plans and protocols not only for the return of students in August but for the entire academic year. Those groups are meeting now to address health and safety protocols and procedures; teaching, learning and curricular development and delivery; school operations; residential life and support; support for our students' social and emotional health; and, community engagement.

Because we do not yet know how the COVID-19 pandemic will evolve from summer into fall, our plan must accommodate both onsite instruction and eLearning. However, irrespective of the mode of instruction, we will develop and deliver learning experiences that allow us to maintain our commitment to a highly personal and academically exceptional learning experience for all of our students. When completed, our *Prep Forward* plan will describe how we will operate during the 2020-2021 school year. We will revise and adapt it as conditions change throughout the year. You can expect to receive much more information over the course of the summer.

As we plan curricular and co-curricular experiences for the 2020-2021 academic year, we will prioritize the safety and health of our students, faculty, staff, and families. We will make decisions consistent with our mission, purpose, and values. We are planning in relation to four key commitments:

- Prioritize the health and safety of students, staff, and faculty
- Prioritize student learning and the student experience
- Develop flexible and adaptable plans
- Effectively incorporate technology into the learning experience

If you have any questions about the process, or about plans for the fall, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Dear Parents, the Virtual Summer Edition

Last year, we hosted three events in our *Dear Parents Speaker Series*. The purpose of the series is to provide Prep parents with an opportunity to come together as community around topics that address a variety of issues important to or of interest to families. We are happy to announce that *Dear Parents* lives on this summer! On June 24, we will host a session on the impacts of sustained stress and trauma on children and adolescents. Jason Welch, a Nationally Certified School Psychologist, will join us and share insights on how adults can provide support to children and teens. This virtual session is scheduled for 7pm on June 24. Expect to receive registration information next week. Please join us for this important virtual event.

In July, we will host a session on the changing college search and admission process. Ronne Turner, Vice Provost for Admissions and Financial Aid at Washington University, and Todd Rinehart, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment at the University of Denver, will join us. We will provide more details about that virtual event in the coming weeks.

We hope your students are enjoying a well-deserved summer break! We will continue to provide updates throughout the summer. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jon McGee
Head of School

Christine Glomski
Principal